

MARVEL
COMICS

DEAD MAN'S HAND

part
VII

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APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

DEADLY

FEAR!

THE MAN WHO...



THE HAND IS DEALT!

MCDANIEL & LARSEN



CARVING UP THE FALLEN KINGPIN'S EMPIRE OF VICE BROUGHT THEM TOGETHER.

LOOK, YOU FIGHT IT OUT -- ME, I JUST WANT MY FAIR SHARE!

URRP!

SOME, LIKE THE MIAMI-BASED SLUG, HAD OTHER AGENDAS.



BUT IT WAS THE INCLUSION OF THE HATED JONIN OF THE NINJA HAND THAT INSTILLED A PASSION IN THE NORMALLY GOLD RATCHET MAN--

THE YAKUZA WILL NOT STAND FOR THIS GAIJAN'S OBVIOUSLY RACIAL ATTACKS ON OUR BROTHERS UNDER JONIN'S LEADERSHIP!

WE APPRECIATE YOUR EMPATHY, TETSUO... AS I'M SURE THE REST OF YOU APPRECIATE THE HARSH ACTIONS WE'VE BEEN FORCED TO TAKE!

OUR STANDING NECESSITATES PROVING OUR OWN POWER IN THE FACE OF TOMBSTONE'S ANTAGONISM!



--THE CONVICTION THAT MOCK CIVILITY IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR RAW BRUTALITY.

IS WHAT THEY SAY TRUE TOMBSTONE? TOMBSTONE!



NOW WOULD BE AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY, MR. VON STRUCKER...



THANK YOU, SNAKESKIN. YOU'RE... RIGHT, OF COURSE.

I ONCE AGAIN REITERATE MY OFFER OF FAIR SHARES AND PROTECTION UNDER THE BANNER OF MY NEW HYDRA!



YOUNG WERNER'S PROPOSAL IS BENEFICIAL TO SPEEDING THESE PROCEEDINGS ALONG! I'VE ALREADY ADVISED MY COLLEAGUES AT ROKKON TO CONSIDER--



FOR THE FINAL TIME, HAMMER, NO, NO, NO!

ANDREAS AND I WILL CONDONE NOTHING THAT LEGITIMIZES THAT S.O.B.'S CLAIM TO OUR LATE FATHER'S ORGANIZATION!

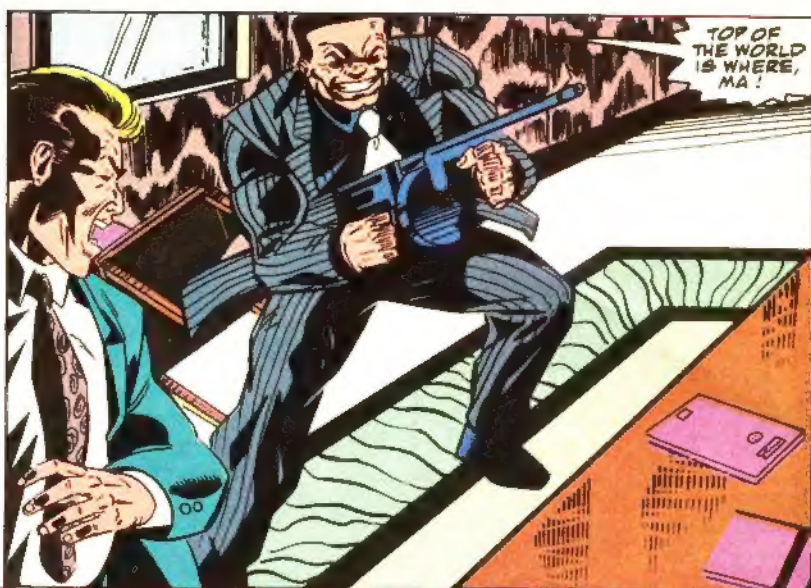
KRZZZKMM



SIBLING RIVALRY AMONG THE VON STRUCKER CHILDREN.

AN INEVITABLE TRAGEDY OF IDENTITY AND PERSONALITY.

IT IS GOOD THAT THE SECRET EMPIRE HAS NO CONCERN WITH EITHER.

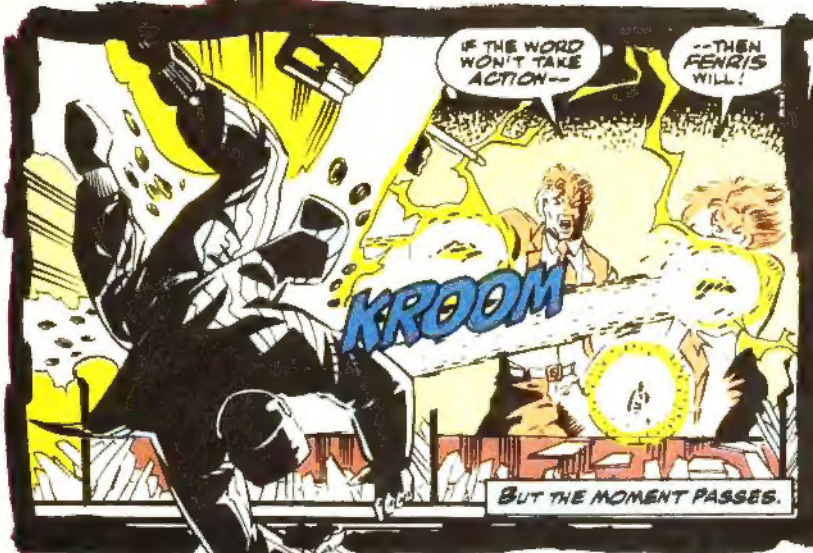


BRAKA! BRAKA! BRAKA!



NOW, THINKS THE BUTTON MAN, WHILE BACKS ARE TURNED AND ATTENTION IS DIVERTED TOWARD HAMMERHEAD'S CINEMA-INSPIRED INSANITY--





IF THE WORD
WON'T TAKE
ACTION--

--THEN
FENRIS
WILL!

KROOM

BUT THE MOMENT PASSES.



T-TOP OF THE...

...MAY?



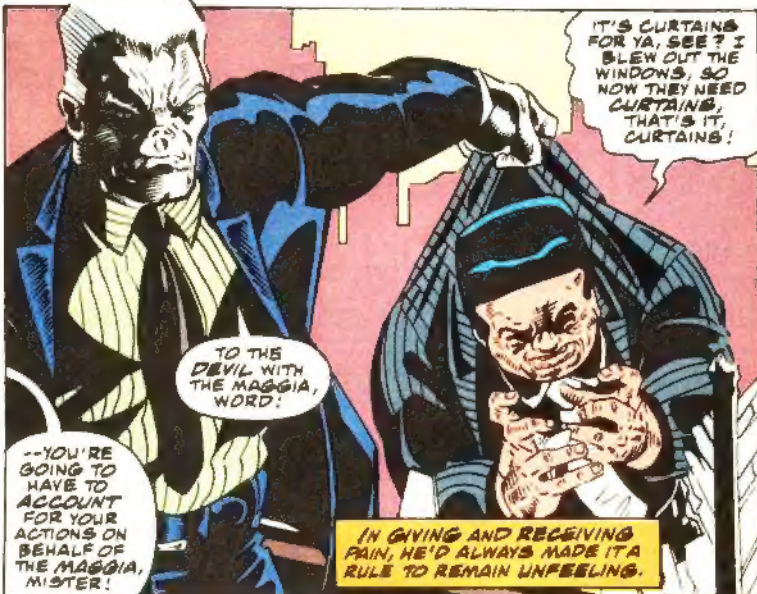
THIS HAS ALL
GONE--UP, LET'S
TRY AND CONTAIN--
THEM, ADDRESSING
TOMBSTONE'S
IMPROPRIETIES
FIRST--

DRAW
YOURSELVES
DOWN!

ANDREA
AND I ARE
ABOVE
THIS SORT OF
THING!

THE MUTANTS DEMONSTRATE
SOME DEGREE OF COMMON
SENSE, BUT THE REST RETURN
TO THEIR RAGADE OF POLICY
MAKERS...

...IN A BUSINESS THE
ICEMAN KNOWS ALL TOO
WELL IS ONLY ABOUT THE
MANUFACTURE OF PAIN.



IT'S CURTAINS
FOR YA, SEE? I
BLEW OUT THE
WINDOWS, SO
NOW THEY NEED
CURTAINS,
THAT'S IT,
CURTAINS!

TO THE
DEVIL WITH
THE MAGGIA,
WORD!

--YOU'RE
GOING TO
HAVE TO
ACCOUNT
FOR YOUR
ACTIONS ON
BEHALF OF
THE MAGGIA,
MISTER!

IN GIVING AND RECEIVING
PAIN, HE'D ALWAYS MADE IT A
RULE TO REMAIN UNFEELING.



AND
WITH YOU,
JONIN...

THEN THE HAND BETRAYED HIS
DESIRE TO BELONG TO SOME-
THING, ABUSING AN OUTSIDER
DESPERATE TO FIT IN ANYWHERE.

THE DESIRE NOW IS FOR THEIR
BLOOD ON HIS HANDS, THEIR
SUFFERING IN HIS EARS, THE
THRILL OF SEEING FEAR IN
THEIR EYES.

TOMBSTONE'S WILLING TO BREAK
HIS RULE FOR THE CHANCE TO
FEEL ALL THOSE THINGS.

A CHILDHOOD ACCIDENT STOLE HIS SIGHT, BUT, INCREDIBLY, IT ENDOVED YOUNG MATT MURDOCK WITH RADAR VISION AND HEIGHTENED SENSES. ARMED ONLY WITH HIS ATHLETIC PROWESS, BILLY CLUB, AND INDOMITABLE COURAGE, MATT BATTLES INJUSTICE AS A CRIMSON-CLAD GLADIATOR!

Stan
Lee
presents:

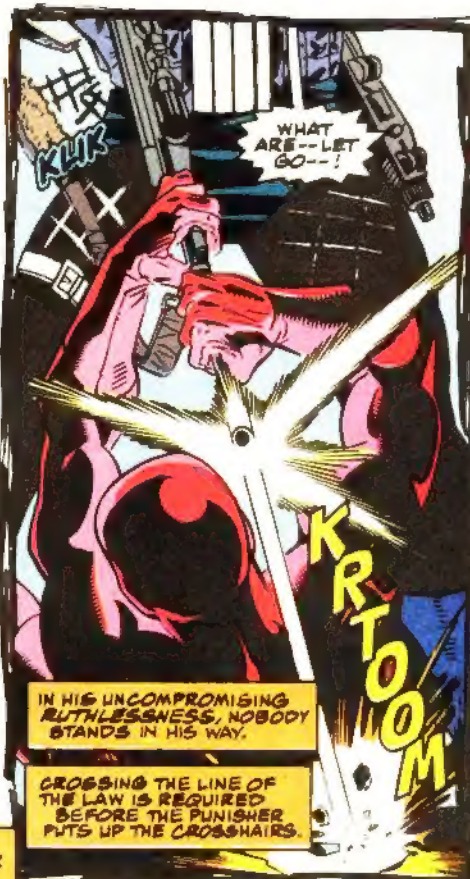
DAREDEVIL, THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!



WE'VE GOT A HEALTHY
MUTUAL DISLIKE,
BASED ON THE CON-
TRAST IN OUR IN-
HERENT BELIEFS.



DON'T
GET TOO
COMFORT-
ABLE
WITH IT.



IN HIS UNCOMPROMISING
RUTHLESSNESS, NOBODY
STANDS IN HIS WAY.

CROSSING THE LINE OF
THE LAW IS REQUIRED
BEFORE THE PUNISHER
PUTS UP THE CROSSHAIRS.

NEVER HAVING GONE OVER, I DON'T
WORRY ABOUT BECOMING A TARGET--

--BUT I CAN UNNERVE
HIM, PUTTING AT ODDS
MY RELATIVE
INNOCENCE AND HIS
REFUSAL TO USE
LETHAL FORCE ON
THE "UNDESERVING"
OF PUNISHMENT.



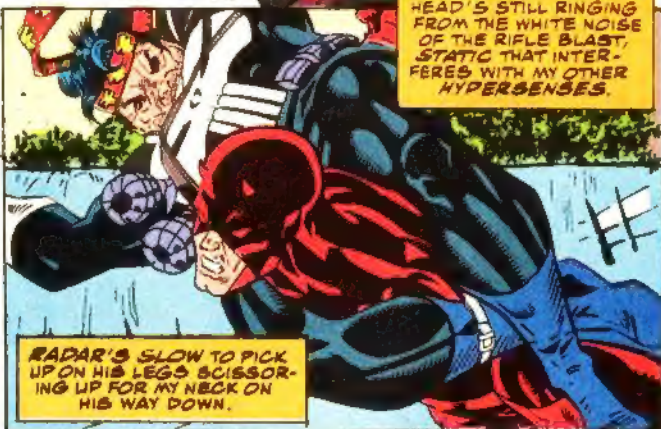
YOU'RE
INSANE
YOU--

MY CODE SAYS EVERY
INDIVIDUAL, NO MATTER
HIS PAST, DESERVES
A SECOND CHANCE.

SURPRISED BY THE
WEAPON DISCHARGING,
HE REARS BACK...



...I LEND A HAND IN
HELPING KEEP
THE MOMENTUM
GOING.



RADAR'S SLOW TO PICK
UP ON HIS LEGS SCISSOR-
ING UP FOR MY NECK ON
HIS WAY DOWN.



MY JAW FLARES
WHITE HOT WITH
JAGGED PAIN JUST
FINE, THOUGH.

OILED STEEL SLIDES ON RICH LEATHER,
SCENT AND SOUND THE FIRST WARNING.



A RAZOR EDGE OF WARMTH
MILLISECONDS AHEAD OF
HEATED METAL, CARVING
SENSATION WHERE PUNISHER
WANTS TO MAKE HIS MARK.



YOU WANT A
PIECE OF ME FOR
OLD TIMES SAKE,
PUNISHER, SAVE
IT FOR LATER.

THERE'S
SOMETHING
GOING ON IN
VEGAS THAT
NEEDS TAKING
DOWN MORE
THAN US TAKING
DOWN EACH
OTHER!



...AND MAYBE
I'LL STILL TAKE
A PIECE NOW,
FOR "OLD TIMES"?

I DON'T GIVE HIM
THE SATISFACTION
OF A REACTION.



BUT THE TIME'S GOING TO COME
WHEN THESE FACE-OFFS BETWEEN
US WON'T KEEP ENDING WITH IT
BEING MY BLOOD ON MY HANDS...





I'M... I'M A SURVIVOR, FATHER.
I'VE HELPED YOU HERE, BEEN YOUR
FACADE-- WE'VE KEPT YOUR
RETURN OUR SECRET!

N-NOW I
DESERVE
RECOGNITION!
A FAIR PLACE IN
RUNNING HYDRA
FOR REAL!

IF NOT, I'M SURE
PROOF THAT YOU'RE
ALIVE... AGAIN...
MIGHT PROVE
INTERESTING TO
PEOPLE LIKE
NICK FURY!

BLACKMAIL,
WERNER? ...
THIS A SPINE,
MY SON?

YOU MAKE
ME PROUD YOU
DO HAVE THE
MAKINGS OF
A WORTHY
SUCCESSOR!

AS SUCH,
I CANNOT
ALLOW YOU
TO LIVE...

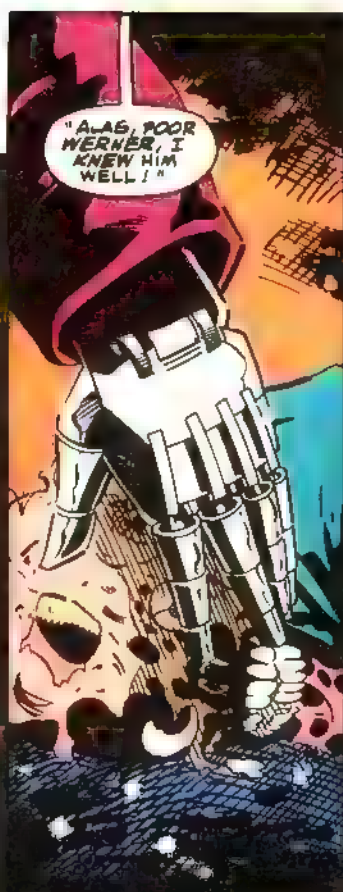
W-WHAT?

THE DEATH
SPORE VIRUS
THAT
REANIMATES
MY BODY IS NO-
WHERE NEAR
SO BENEFICIAL
TO YOURS!

I'M SORRY--
I DIDN'T
MEAN--LET
ME MAKE IT UP
TO YOU WHAT
CAN I DO?..?

DIE.

THAT'S
A GOOD
BOY



"ALAS, POOR
WERNER, I
KNEW HIM
WELL!"

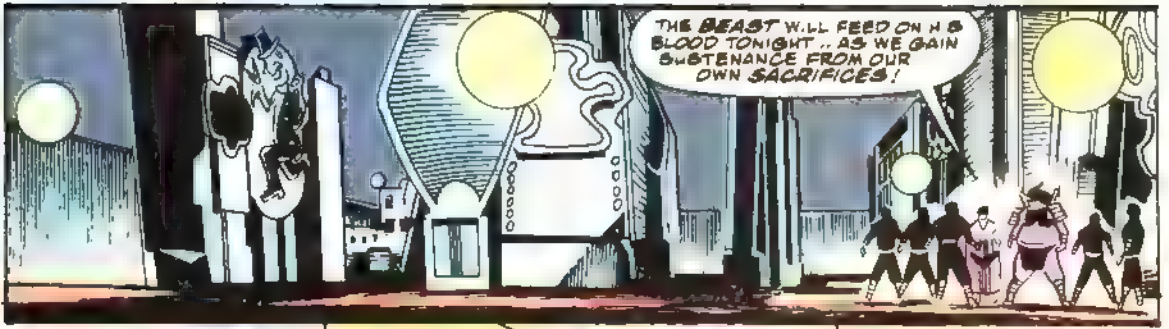


NO,
ACTUALLY,
THAT'S NOT
TRUE, IS IT,
MR. VON
STRUCKER?

CLUTCH



NOT THAT
IT'S EVER TOO
LATE WHERE I'M
CONCERNED...



THE BEAST WILL FEED ON HIS BLOOD TONIGHT... AS WE GAIN SUBSTANCE FROM OUR OWN SACRIFICES!



YOU CHANNEL THE INHUMAN ESSENCE THAT GIVES US OUR POWER, DEAR ITANAMI, BUT ITS FULL POTENTIAL IS NOT OURS UNTIL YOU CLAIM THE BODY YOU POSSESS AS YOUR OWN!

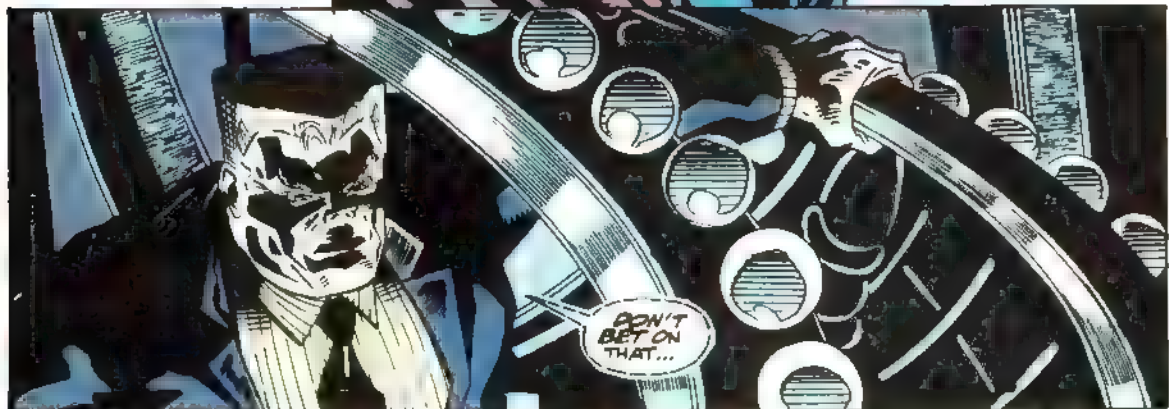


THE HUMANITY STILL WITHIN MUST BE PURGED BY THE MIDNIGHT HOUR IF WE ARE TO MAINTAIN OUR SHADOW WAR FOR ETERNITY!



I SHALL SEE TO THE RITUAL, JONIN... SLOWLY AND PAINFULLY!

I WILL NOT FAIL!



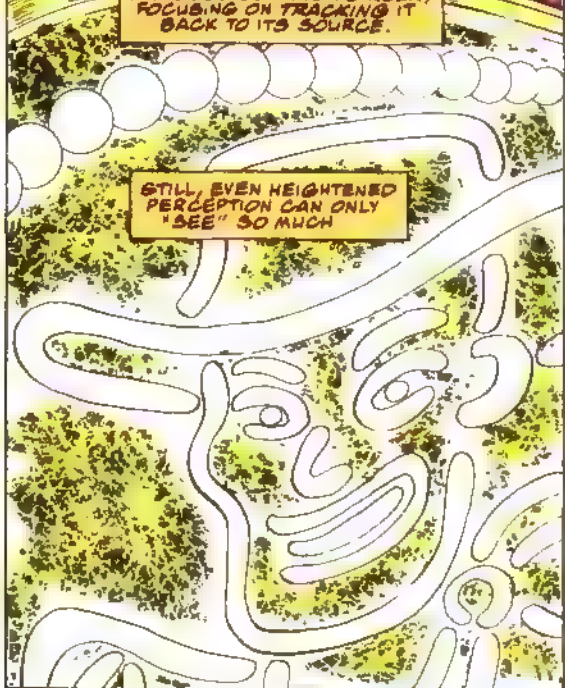
DON'T BET ON THAT...

MAYBE IT SOUNDS MELODRAMATIC,
BUT WHEN YOU'VE LIVED YOUR LIFE
THROUGH HYPERACTIVE SENSES, YOU
CAN FEEL THE TENSION IN THE AIR.

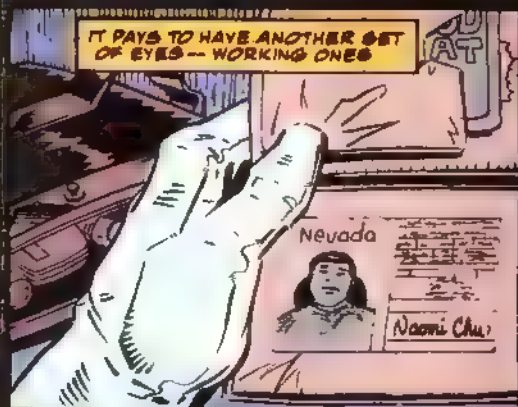


NOT TO MENTION SCENTING
A DISSOLVED NINJA'S REEK,
FOCUSING ON TRACKING IT
BACK TO ITS SOURCE.

STILL, EVEN HEIGHTENED
PERCEPTION CAN ONLY
"SEE" SO MUCH



IT PAYS TO HAVE ANOTHER SET
OF EYES -- WORKING ONES

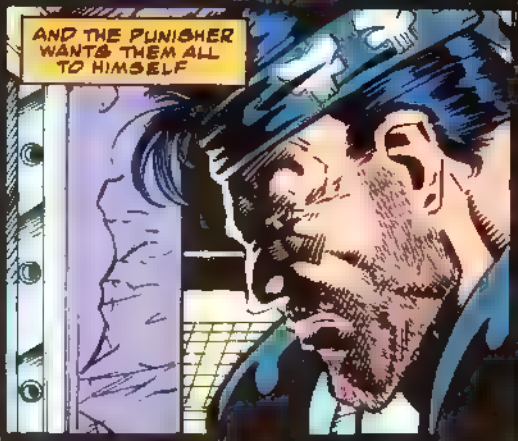


SECURITY LOCKED UP THE PURSE
AND I. D. WHEN THEIR BEMITCHED
OWNER WANDERED OUT OF THE
CASINO AND INTO THE HAND, THE
PUNISHER'S WILLING TO FOLLOW MY
LEAD IN SAVING HER...



...FOR THE SOLE REASON
THAT BREAKING IZANAMI'S
SPELL ALSO BREAKS OFF
THE PLANNED BLOODBATH
OF THE OTHER GANGSTERS.

AND THE PUNISHER
WANTS THEM ALL
TO HIMSELF



NOT ALL MOTIVES ON THE CHU WOMAN'S BEHALF ARE SO MALEVOLENT...

YEAH, THAT FAT BROAD CAME THROUGH HERE...

BUT THE COPS TOLD ME TALK TO NO ONE, LEAST 'A ALL BOMB LONER WITH AN ATTITUDE!

ROOM RATES
\$10, hour
\$40, night

KRASH!

I PREFER "NOMAD" TO "LONER."

...ALTHOUGH METHODS ARE OPEN TO DEBATE.

COPS TELL YOU THE NAME OF A GOOD DENTIST, TOO? START TALKING.

IT PAYS TO HAVE THOSE EXTRA EYES.

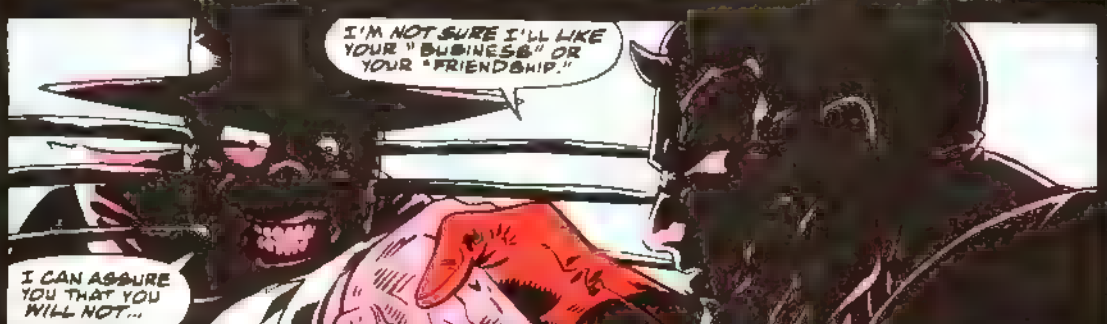
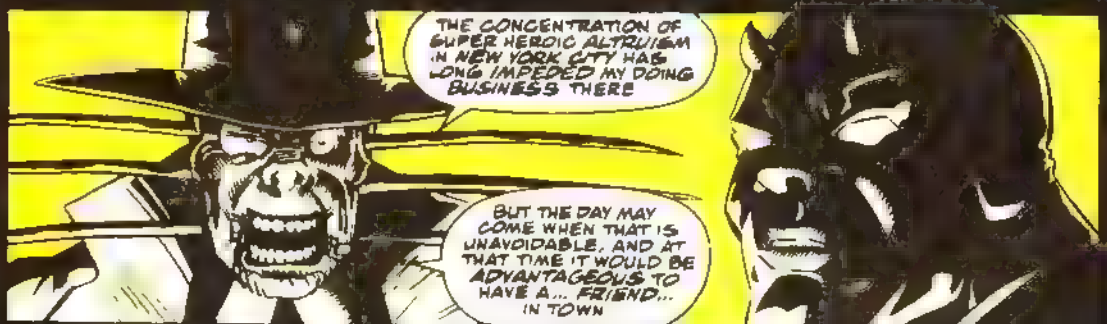
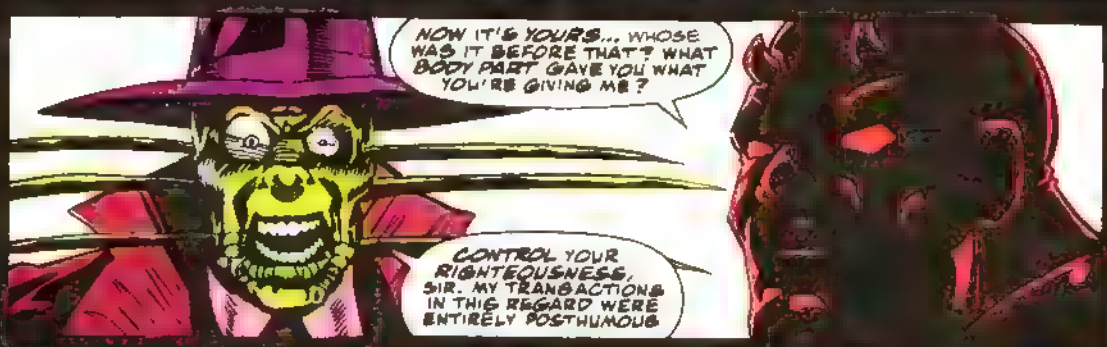
AND DEALING FOR INFORMATION WITH A MERCENARY NAMED TERROR, IT COSTS, AS WELL.

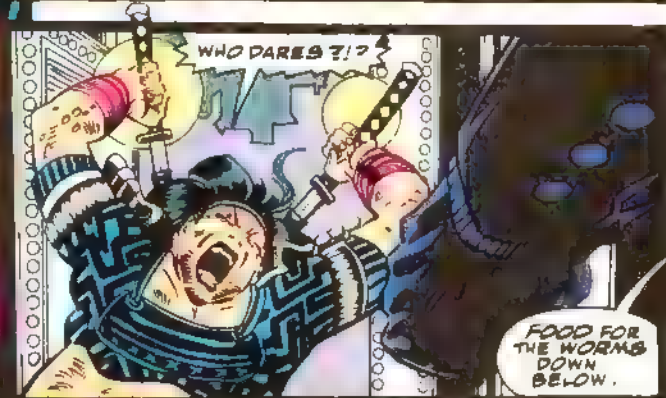
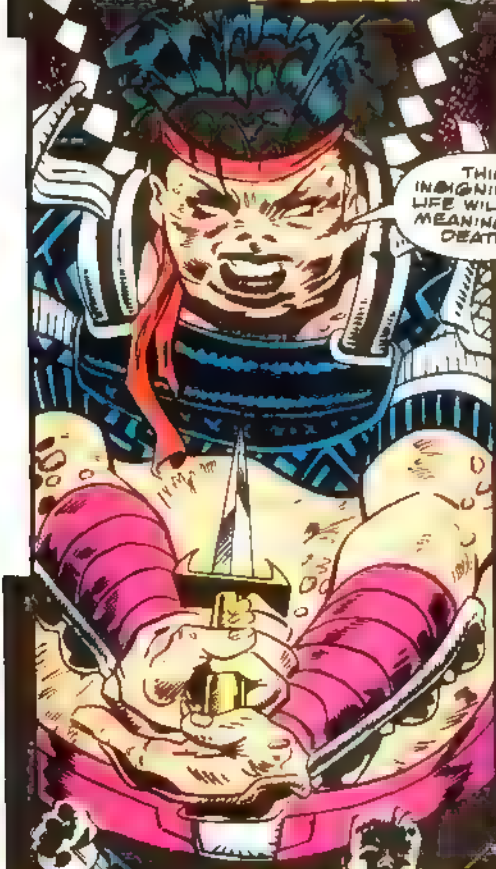
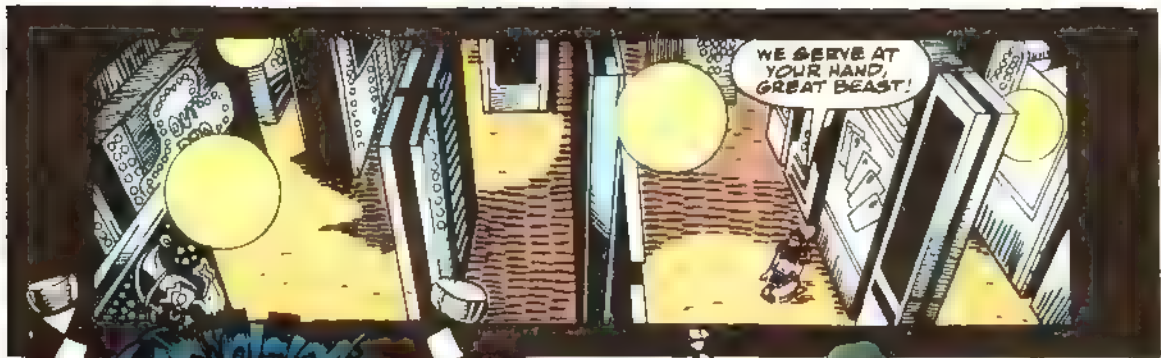
DO YOU ENJOY THE THEATER, DAREDEVIL? I DO!

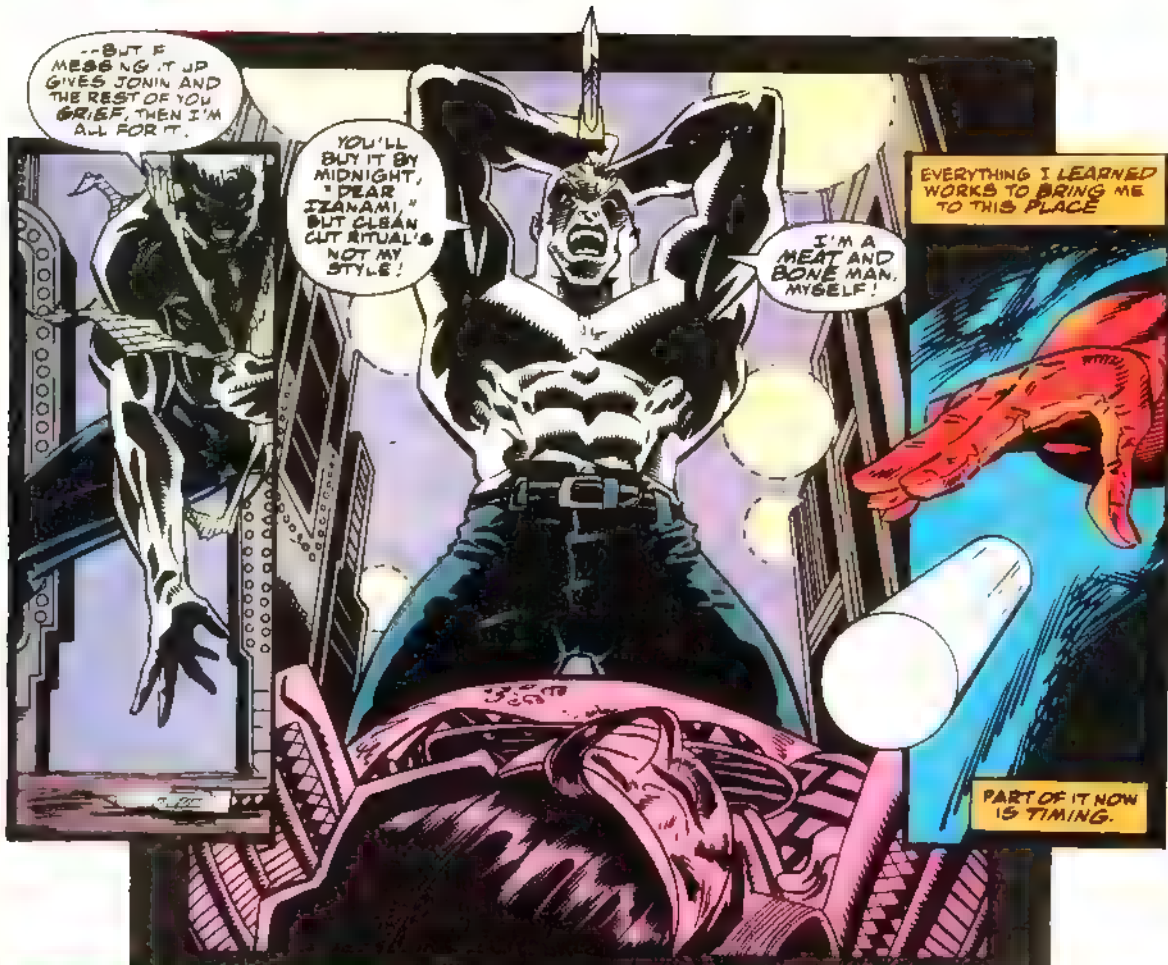
UNFORTUNATELY, MY APPEARANCE OFTEN PRECLUDES THE BEST SEATS!

REAL LIFE DOESN'T LEAVE A LOT OF TIME FOR MAKE-BELIEVE WHAT ABOUT NAOMI CHU'S LIFE?

YOU'RE A DEMANDING SOUL, VIBRANT! I'VE BEEN QUITE FORTH-COMING IN SHARING MY KNOWLEDGE





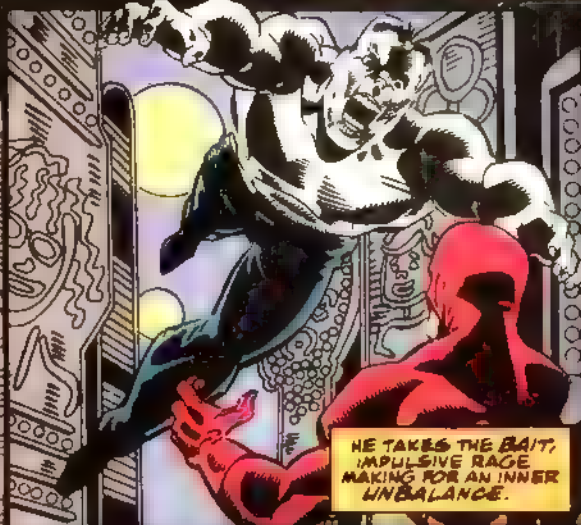




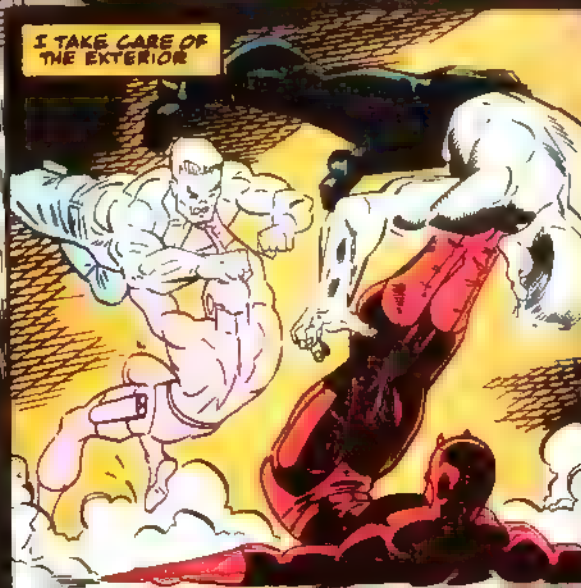
TALK'S CHEAP,
TOMBSTONE--
LIKE YOUR
VALUES!

COME ON,
THEN--
COME ON!

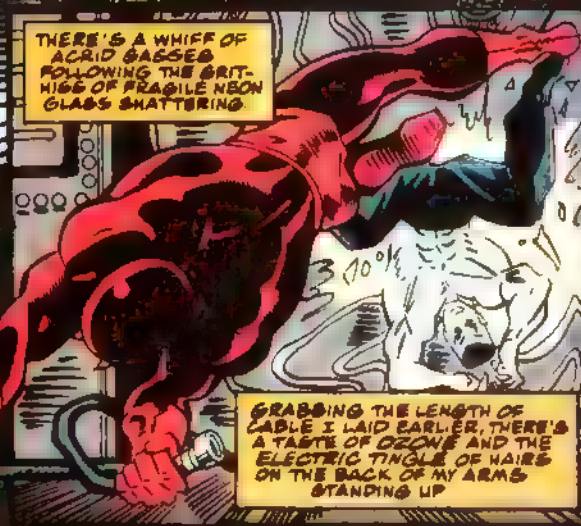
--NOT WORTH
WHAT I'M GOING
TO PUT YOU
THROUGH FOR
DELAYING MY
REVENGE!



HE TAKES THE BAIT,
IMPULSIVE RAGE
MAKING FOR AN INNER
UNBALANCE.



I TAKE CARE OF
THE EXTERIOR



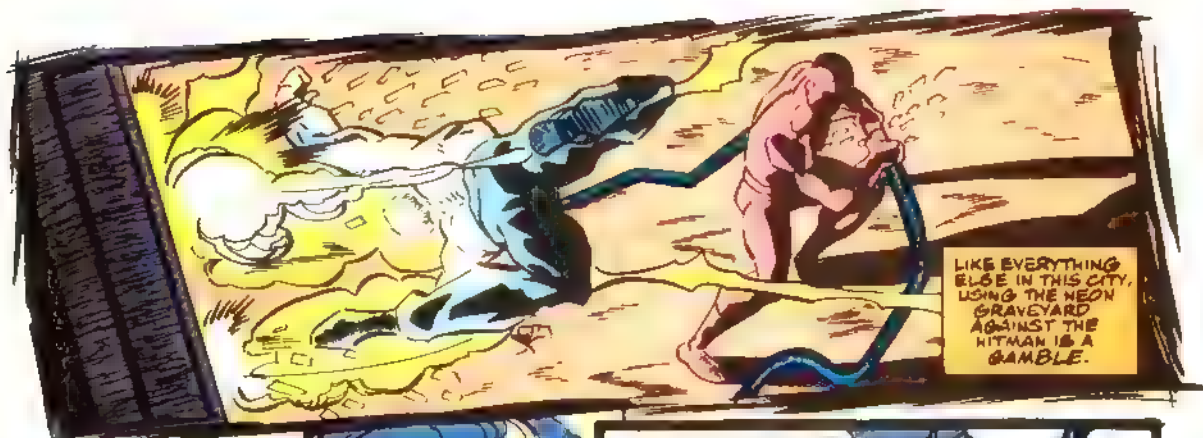
THERE'S A WHIFF OF
ACRID GASSES
FOLLOWING THE BRIT-
HISS OF FRAGILE NEON
GLASS SHATTERING

GRABBING THE LENGTH OF
CABLE I LAID EARLIER, THERE'S
A TASTE OF OZONE AND THE
ELECTRIC TINGLE OF HAIRS
ON THE BACK OF MY ARMS
STANDING UP

TOMBSTONE KNOWS
THE FEELING.

ZZTKRAIAKLE!

KRZZT

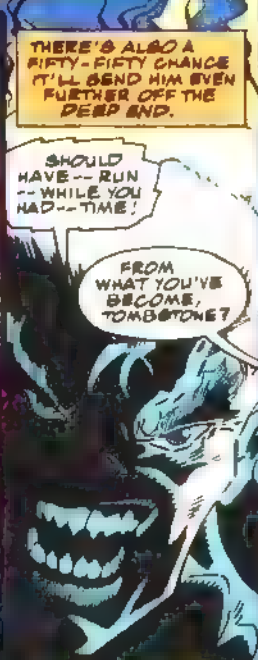


LIKE EVERYTHING ELSE IN THIS CITY, USING THE NEON GRAVEYARD AGAINST THE HITMAN IS A GAMBLE.



IT'S EVEN MONEY THE SHOCK WILL TAKE THE EDGE OFF THE VINDICTIVE FURY FUELING HIS CURRENT RAMPAGE.

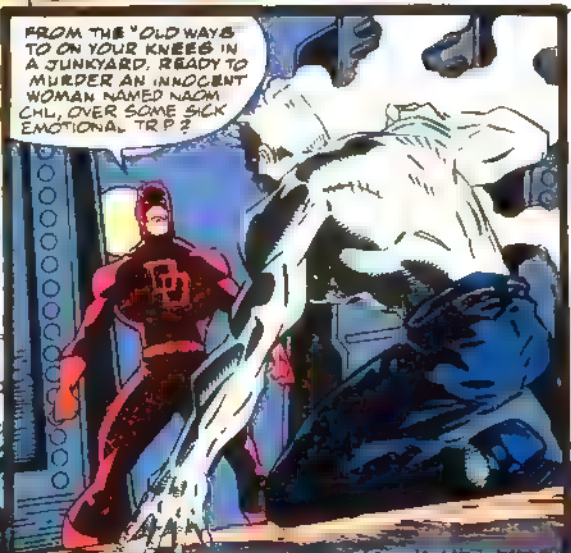
HNNGH



THERE'S ALSO A FIFTY-FIFTY CHANCE IT'LL SEND HIM EVEN FURTHER OFF THE DEEP END.

SHOULD HAVE-- RUN --WHILE YOU HAD--TIME!

FROM WHAT YOU'VE BECOME, TOMBSTONE?



FROM THE "OLD WAYS" TO ON YOUR KNEES IN A JUNKYARD, READY TO MURDER AN INNOCENT WOMAN NAMED NAOMI, OVER SOME SICK EMOTIONAL TRIP?



THOSE YOUR LAST WORDS?

I THOUGHT... PRIDED YOURSELF ON BEING-- PROFESSIONAL! NOW YOU'RE-- MONSTER-- NO CONTROL!..

YOU LOSE YOURSELF-- AND THE HAND'S-- REALLY WON-- HAVEN'T THEY?



THERE'S ENOUGH TRUTH IN THE BLUFF FOR IT TO WORK

...COMBINED WITH THE DETAILS PROVIDED BY TERROR'S "ACQUISITIONS," IT'S A WINNING HAND ALL AROUND.

THE WITCHING HOUR COMES AND GOES, AND WITH IT THE INCORPORAL THING THAT IS IZANAMI.

A RELATIVELY CALMER TOMBSTONE IS SATISFIED WITH THIS WAY OF INCREASING THE HAND'S VULNERABILITY, DEPRIVING THEM OF THEIR MATERNAL ANCHOR.

THANKS.

WITH THE KILLER DEFUSED, I'M WILLING TO LET HIM WALK FOR THE MOMENT, MORE CONCERNED WITH A SINGLE LIFE--

--AND THE MULTIPLE THREATS OF THE MOBSTERS STILL AT LARGE.

GOT ALL YOU WANTED, HORNHEAD?

THERE'S STILL PLENTY MORE TO GO AROUND...

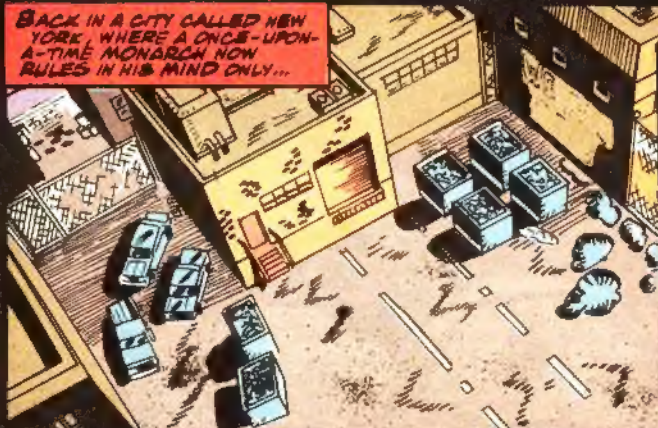
OR YOU LOOKING FOR A MERIT BADGE, TOO?

LOOKS LIKE WE MISSED ALL THE FUN.

I WAS THERE FOR THE INSPIRATION FOR THIS MALICIOUS GREED, THE FALL OF THE SO-CALLED KINGPIN.

I'M NOT ABOUT TO STAND STILL WHILE ANOTHER RISES UP TO TAKE HIS PLACE...

BACK IN A CITY CALLED NEW YORK WHERE A ONCE-UPON-A-TIME MONARCH NOW RULES IN HIS MIND ONLY...



HO-HO-HO, WHAT'S THIS?



... ASSUMING HE EVEN HAS A MIND LEFT AT THIS POINT.

CHRISTMAS COMES EARLY THIS YEAR!



WHATCHA SAY, PALLY? HALF FULL BOTTLE BEATS COLLECTIN' EMPTY CANS EVERY MORNIN', KNOW WHAT I MEAN?



AND SINCE YOU AIN'T TREATIN' THIS WITH THE PROPER RESPECT...



HEY!



WILSON RISK STILL DOES POSSESS AN INTELLECT, OF COURSE--

--DOMINATED BY A CUNNING MIND,
SHARP AS THE BLADE IN HIS HAND.

WHAT'RE
YOU--?!

WHICH IS TO SAY, VERY
SHARP, INDEED.

OH
DEAR
GOD...

DRINK UP.

LOST IN STREETS HE'D LOST SIGHT
OF FROM AN IVORY TOWER, HE NEEDS
THIS TIME TO RELEARN HIS KINGDOM
BY TRAVELING AMONG THE
COMMONERS.

STAKING A NEW CLAIM...

FIFTEEN
BUCKS, BIG
GUY. DON'T
SPEND IT ALL
IN ONE
PLACE.

CERTAIN LESSONS
ARE MASTERED THE
HARD WAY, AMONG
THEM ONE TRUTH
IN PARTICULAR
THOSE IN THE WEST
WILL NEVER
REALIZE.

REAL KINGS
AREN'T MADE.

THEY'RE BORN
INTO ROYALTY.

"DEAD MAN'S HAND" CONTINUES
IN NOMAD #6, BEFORE CON-
CLUDING IN PUNISHER'S WAR JOURNAL
#47! AND DD #310 HAS HORNHEAD
BACK IN NYC FACING THE MENACE OF
CALYPSO! BE THERE TIMES THREE!

DEVIL'S ADVOCATE

RALPH MACCHIO: EDITOR — PAT GARRAHY: ASSISTANT EDITOR
C/O MARVEL COMICS—387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH—NEW YORK, NEW YORK—10016

Dear Dedicated Daredevil Doers,

I have been reading Marvel Comics for over twenty years now, and there were times when I wanted to express my interests, disinterests, or just win a "no-prize" award for one of your far and few between discrepancies. I also regret to say that I am not a faithful reader of DD, but after reading issue #305, I think this is going to change. I see Spider-Man almost everywhere now, but never like this. Peter Parker assisting Daredevil by going undercover to stop the Surgeon General—excellent! I for one think that Peter Parker should give up the photography gig, and become a private detective. This stuff was so suspenseful, I was literally sitting on the edge of my seat. I can't wait for the conclusion. Keep up the great work!

Paul R. Lind
Fort Huachuca, AZ 85613
(Full address withheld by request)

Dear Deviled Eggs,

I just finished reading DAREDEVIL #305, and boy do I have something to say to you! SICK! SICK!! SICK!!! I realize that this sort of thing goes on, but, please, do I have to read about it?!

Other than my obvious complaint, I loved it!! Spidey has always worked well with ol' Hornhead. I am looking forward to the next issue.

Speaking of Spidey, why wasn't anything said about the Kingpin? It seems to me that Spidey had a huge old grudge with ol' Fatso, and at the very least I expected Spidey to ask why he wasn't called in to help. Not that the man in the red suit needed help, but it would have been professional courtesy to ask, yes? A simple, "good job," on Spidey's behalf would have also been appropriate.

In the upcoming saga about the Fat Man's empire, do me a favor—don't kill Wilson Fisk. Although I'm glad to see him gone, I would like him to be alive and in prison. By the way, does Mr. Chichester ever get tired of being compared to Frank Miller?

Dan Wentzel
R.D. #3, Box 195
Newport, PA 17074

Spidey has enough problems of his own as of late, so we don't think he even had the time to lend DD a hand during the "Fall of the Kingpin" saga. Besides, Dan, we think that you would agree, Matt Murdock had a bigger claim to "ol' Fatso" than anyone else in the good old Marvel Universe, yes?

Also, we think that the correct way to phrase your last question is, "Does Frank Miller ever get tired of being compared to D.G. Chichester?"

Dear Hornhead Ralf,

Here I am, knocking guys off my computer, writing this letter to you keys at DAREDEVIL. I have no idea how I should start this letter, because it's really becoming quite cliché to write, "Congratulations on blah, blah, blah..." or "I've just finished reading..." Thus I will get right to the facts. DAREDEVIL #305 was fantastic!

In just a short amount of time, I've become one of D.G. Chichester's biggest fans. D.G. writes so brilliantly in his genre—gritty and hard-hitting. His stories are so complex and vastly more interesting. The guest spot of our friendly neighborhood Spider-Man had a great plot, and was very complex. I also caught the prologue to D.G.'s upcoming series TERROR INC. on page one. Now I hope that Terror returns the favor by having DD guest star in his own book when it debuts. Las Vegas, for some reason or another, has always been an ideal setting for a comic book story. I am looking forward to "Dead Man's Hand."

The new artists, Scott McDaniel and Chris Ivy also did a very respectable job. I was surprised when I saw this first issue's art, because it is very different from the previous work I have seen by McDaniel. Scott's work on WHAT IF was much looser, and totally different from what it is now. Chris' inks meshed very well. I also applaud the art done on the splash pages, as they would have made great covers!

Joey Marchese
P.O. Box 2165
Union City, NJ 07083

Mr. Chichester is very glad to hear that you not only liked his recent issues of DD, but that you liked Terror's debut in the Marvel Universe as well! D.G. has been so busy as of late writing DAREDEVIL, TERROR INC., the upcoming NIGHTSTALKERS, various HELLRAISER projects, a screenplay that will be produced by Clive Barker, and the forthcoming PUNISHER CAPTAIN AMERICA bookshelf limited series—BLOOD AND GLORY (WHEW!!!), that he absolutely needed to take a few issues of DAREDEVIL off (we think he has got a great excuse, don't you?) Anyway, don't despair! Scott McDaniel's sidekick—Glenn Herdling—will be filling in for Mr. Chichester for the next two issues. You may remember Glenn as the writer of Scott's first Marvel job—that fateful issue of WHAT IF in which Glenn proposed to his sweetie. Or you might remember Glenn for being the editor of the very trendy Jon Bon Jovi-esque NOMAD title. Or you may remember Glenn as being Pat Garrahy's ex-boss (pbblbbbtthh!!!). Or you may remember Glenn as that gawky kid who hung around Scott during their college days. That's right! These two bozos have known each other since their youthful days at Bucknell University!! And to make matters even worse, Scott and his lovely wife, Amy, introduced Glenn to his wife-to-be, Laura!!! Small world, ain't it?

Dear Ralph and Pat,

I've met some pretty vicious vixens this past week—in the comic books I've been reading that is! Only a few days ago I was holding my breath as (We interrupt this letter to note that this letter has been severely edited because the author of this letter was so

bold as to actually make slight comparisons of our characters to those that are not ours, but are in a major motion picture that is in very many theaters even now—weeks after its release. Not that we mind or anything, we just figured that this was the most humorous way of getting "the author's" point across without actually naming our competition. Oh, and we're referring to the person who wrote this letter as "the author of this letter," just because you haven't read his name yet. It's at the end of this letter, you know. We now return you to "the author's" letter at a point after which all this nonsense began. Carry on.) and now I've just finished reading DAREDEVILS #305 and #306, in which DD and Spidey almost lost their livers to the very pretty (but completely crazy) Surgeon General. Hey, is there some sinister side to this organ donor business that the media hasn't been sharing with the public? This psycho-with-a-knife opus wasn't based on anything you came across in the newspaper, was it?

Well, no matter where you found your inspiration, "Under the Knife" and "Emergency Procedure" were a couple of genuinely entertaining horror-fests. The covers of both issues were very traditional too. They reminded me of some of those Jack Kirby classics of yesteryear, with their eye-catching tableaux and bombastic blurbs.

Though I think D.G. did a better job on "Knife", his oft-intrusive, and frequently self-conscious first person narration turned purpler by the panel. I liked the way Angeline found her victims on the dance floors of Manhattan clubs. Where else does one find meat, but at a meat market! And I appreciated the glimpses D.G. offered us as to how DD used his heightened senses to detect the clues the Surgeon General left behind in the ashes and on/in the mashed cockroach. But I also liked the brief exchange between DD and those downs in the park; the dialogue between DD and the emergency room staff, and that ironic "blind-leading-the-blind" scene involving Matt and Karen on Third Avenue. I even got a kick out of those Vegas hoods wanting to hire Foggy as their mouthpiece for the upcoming "Dead Man's Hand" storyline. Should be good!

I have no complaints about the artwork either. Scott McDaniel may never make me forget Gene Colan (who would?), but the sightless swashbuckler looked as impressive as ever. And I liked Peter Parker's moustache, too—I was disappointed to find out it wasn't real!

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Oh, we've said enough already!

Next issue: It's a surprise INFINITY WAR crossover—when DD's really ugly and very evil Doppelgänger shows up just in time to tangle with CALYPSO! (Yes, it's the same "Calypso" that made Peter Parker's life miserable for the first five issues of his silver/gold/platinum/ poly-bagged, sans-adjective, SPIDER-MAN series!! You didn't think we'd pass up the chance to bring her back, did you?!)